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In This Issue:

State Librarian Award for Excellence

E-Rate Filtering Rules

0

Trustee Teaching Video

6

MEL eBooks Collection: The Ongoing Collaboration MEL eBooks MEL eBooks

By Jo Budler, Deputy State Librarian

n April 9, the MEL Ebooks collection officially became a service of AccessMichigan. This permanent collection of ebooks is a living model of ongoing collaboration at the Library of Michigan and among librarians and consortia across the state.

The original collection of 8,000 titles was chosen by librarians at the Library of Michigan, in Library Development and in Public Services. The selectors started with a list generated by netLibrary with an emphasis on a large set of subject areas and recent publication dates. We determined that criteria had to be as broad as the interests of all types of library users, all of whom will be using this collection. During discussions, a suggestion was made: let s make sure that we include titles which might not otherwise be added to a library s collection so that we give material to librarians and users across the state to answer the less usual question. So in this collection you will find a title whose subject is philology (*The Employment of English* contains a lively discussion of Cultural Criticism and the Politics of Selling Out) as well as many computer titles published by O Reilly.

While the collection was being developed, a database for authentication was being created at the Library of Michigan by our Network and Information Systems team. Each library across the state was issued a password and authorization so that each might access that institution s unique record and update pertinent information within the record. Once this database is established and contains accurate, up-to-date information about how each library accesses the Internet, we hope to be able to use this information to add services to AccessMichigan with a minimal amount of effort on the part of libraries across the state.

The Library of Michigan is committed to making resources available to all Michigan residents and we asked adaptive technology coordinator Scott Norris to assess the ability of screen reading software to read netLibrary titles. We found that while titles in the Guttenberg collection were readable, others were not. At this time, there are still some obstacles to access to other netLibrary titles. We will continue to address this issue.

Because the Library of Michigan was part of the consortium organized by the Michigan Library Consortium (MLC) in August 2000, our Technical Services team has had experience with handling MARC records for netLibrary titles. The team was able to offer good advice on how to integrate these records into a library s catalog. It is not always easy being on the cutting edge but they assured me that this process was smoother than they had expected!

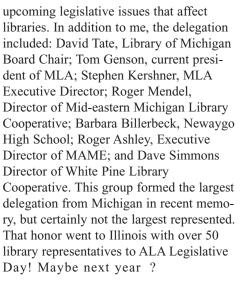
The collaboration went beyond the walls of the Library of Michigan. Many of you have requested MARC records for these titles. MLC is arranging for MARC records to be made available from OCLC. This collection of records should be available by the end of May at the cost of \$.05 per record. If you are interested in acquiring these records, please contact Jolee Hamlin at MLC, in Lansing at 517-694-4242 ext. 39 or toll-free at 800-530-9019.

The idea for this project came from a variety of sources including an LSTA grant proposal



I had the privilege of being part of a

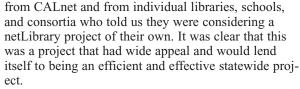
Michigan delegation of librarians who participated on May 1 in the ALA Legislative Day in Washington D.C. We visited the offices of both Senators from Michigan and thirteen Michigan Representatives so that we might express our appreciation for their continued support of the Library Services and Technology Act and inform them about some



This month we bid farewell to Ellen Richardson, Library Law Specialist. Ellen has served the library community and the Library of Michigan well for the past five years with her excellent insight and knowledge of the law. She has been instrumental in navigating the muddy waters of library law and making it understandable to us all through workshops, articles and library meetings. She will be missed and we wish her the best. In the interim, Scott Norris, who holds a law degree and works in SBPH at the Library of Michigan, will be available to consult with library staff and trustees on library law questions. Scott can be reached through the Library Development Division toll-free number: 1-877-479-0021.

Christie

Have a beautiful June!



This project allows us to share resources in a new manner. Because our collection is shared, there is no need to request a title and wait for it to arrive. MEL Ebook users may remove titles from the electronic shelf as soon as they find them there. Many are not checking out the titles but rather browsing a specific title, finding the information they want, and allowing the title to return to the shelf so that others may access it.

The most exciting aspect of this project is the growing collaboration and cooperation that is leading to a growth in the collection itself! Many of you have asked if and how you might add to this shared collection. If you are interested in doing this, please contact Darcy Stratmann at netLibrary, 800-413-4557, ext. 3742 or email *sdarcy@netlibrary.com*.

Our collection had been up a week when we received the following message from a person at netLibrary: I was looking at the stats this morning and you (Michigan) had over 1,400 accesses in the first week alone. That is outstanding.

And all one can add to that is: yes, Michigan libraries and librarians certainly are.

pecial thanks and recognition to the Genesee District Library staff, who added \$10,000 worth of titles to the shared collection, and Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative staff, who contributed \$5,000 worth of titles to our netLibrary collection.

Please note: from now until June 30, librarians have a unique opportunity to increase the pool of available ebooks to MEL. The Library of Michigan has arranged for all of the funds used by other Michigan libraries to add titles to the MEL Ebooks collection to be used to purchase titles. After June 30, 2001, netLibrary will add an access fee to all purchases of titles. This access fee constitutes 50 percent of the cost of the title.

*Library of Michigan team members who worked on the MEL Ebooks collection are:
Dave Boyle, Becky Cawley, Tammy Droscha,
Paul Groll, Elaine Harrison, Pennie Howard,
Leelyn Johnson, Jenn Kesson, Julie King, Kim
Laird, Dave Lamb, Kirsten Lietz, Janice
Murphy, Susan Nearing, Scott Norris, Nancy
Robertson, Kris Rzepczynski, Bryon Sitler,
Brandy Teall, Don Todaro, and Nancy
Whitmer.

Michigan Libraries Celebrate National Library Week

By Gretchen Taylor, Public Information Intern

ational Library Week! Throughout Michigan and the rest of the United States, librarians and their customers gathered together to celebrate the wonderful organizations that community libraries are. This year, National Library Week was April 1 to 7. Here s a look at some of the festivities that took place in the Michigan library community:

The biennial Rural Libraries Conference, sponsored by the Library of Michigan, was held in Bellaire at the Shanty Creek Resort from April 2 to 4, 2001. Over 400 attendees enjoyed a variety of sessions, good food, and fascinating vendors.

Morton Township Library in Mecosta offered a different theme for each day of Library Week. Themes included *Free Video Day*, when customers borrowed videos free of charge, and *Excuse All Library Fines Day*, the perfect time to return that library book that was hidden under the couch for three months. The library also held daily drawings for books and book bags.

Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti District libraries took a similar approach with different guests each day. Local chef Craig Common demonstrated his culinary skills, puppeteer Robert Papineau presented his Pippin Puppets, Caldecott winner David Small, author of *So, You Want to Be President?* lectured and signed books, and musicians and magicians were on hand throughout the week to add to the festivities.

Chelsea District Library held a bookmark contest, daily puzzle contests, and word games. Teens participated in Pictionary Night, and youngsters enjoyed the Wild Swan Theater's performance of A Honey Pot of Pooh Stories.

The Library of Michigan also participated in National Library Week in a new and exciting way. The Library ran a series of advertisements, one for each day of the week, in the *Lansing State Journal*. Each advertisement featured a different service that the Library provides, including the Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, the reference desk, genealogy, rare book and Michigan collections, the State Law Library, and the Michigan Electronic Library (MEL).

Across the state and around the country, National Library Week demonstrated how important libraries are to their communities and the states in which they reside.

Library of Michigan Awarded Sixth Keppel

By Gretchen Taylor, Public Information Intern

ow many of you know what the plural of abacus is? The Library of Michigan's Federal Programs Manager Naomi Krefman didn't know and she had to find out fast! She and state librarian Christie Pearson Brandau had just been presented the Keppel. This is an award the Federal-State Cooperative System (FSCS) for Public Library Data gives to state library agencies that have excelled in the completeness, promptness and high quality of the local public library data that they collect, edit, and submit annually to the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). The national public library data, including individual library data and state summaries, is made available by NCES in diskette form.

This is the sixth year and the fifth consecutive time the Library of Michigan has received the Keppel Award. This is the first (of several, we hope) that Brandau has won the Keppel; Krefman has received this honor each year since 1996. The award is a working abacus and is given to the chief officer of the state library and to the state data coordinator. Second and subsequent-year recipients receive additional plaques engraved with the year to add to their abacuses.

The award is named after Francis Keppel, who served as the U.S. Commissioner of Education from 1962 to 1965 and as the NCLIS Commissioner from 1978 to 1983. He advocated reliable and regularly reported national, state, and local library services across the nation. Some examples of data collected are: the number of books and other materials loaned, number of books and other materials in the collection, number of librarians or other staff, and expenditures by category. Libraries may use the information to plan services, make management decisions, and justify budget requests.

Krefman was also elected to a three-year term as a member of the FSCS Steering Committee. This committee develops procedures, such as database specification, output, analysis, the use of data, and long-range planning. In her capacity as a state data coordinator, Krefman will collect data from all public libraries in Michigan and train the staff of local libraries in methods of completing statistical forms on top of many other responsibilities. She was chosen for one of two vacancies for state data coordinator out of four people.





Michigan Summer Reading Program

By Kristine Tardiff, Youth Services Specialist

This year s Summer Library Program theme is Reading Road Trip U.S.A. Michigan is a member of the Cooperative Summer Library Program, a consortium of 12 states that work to make the summer reading program available to as many children as possible at the lowest cost for their public libraries. The cooperative also develops a program manual which is purchased by the Library of Michigan for all libraries in Michigan. The manual includes planning and promotion ideas, as well as dozens of special events, crafts, activities, recipes, creative writing and storytelling, storytimes, group games, and more.

Michigan libraries are taking advantage of quality materials available through Highsmith, such as posters, bookmarks, buttons, stickers, reading records, sunglasses, car-shaped erasers, temporary tattoos, and other items. Kevin Hawkes, illustrator of such fine books as *Weslandia* and *My Little Sister Ate One Hare* did the artwork for this year s summer reading program materials.

If you are interested in participating in 2002 s Summer Library Program through the Library of Michigan, please contact youth services specialist Kristine Tardiff at 877-479-0021 or you may email her at *ktardiff@libraryofmichigan.org*.

What's Excellent?

\$5,000, That's What! (State Librarian's Excellence Award)

By Sarah Watkins, Executive Director, Library of Michigan Foundation

At the April 17, 2001, meeting of the Foundation board, the board members approved an exciting, new award the *State Librarians*

Excellence Award. This annual award will reflect our new state librarians focus on excellence in customer service and will be awarded once each year to a library that exemplifies excellence in customer service. In addition to a handsome trophy, it will be accompanied by a check in the amount of \$5,000 that the recipient library can use as they see fit.

We plan to have the criteria for receiving the award completed early in June so that applications can be distributed in July and nominations received by September 28, 2001.

The award will be kicked off at an inaugural presentation at the November 7th President's Reception that the Foundation and the Library of Michigan will co-host for the annual Michigan Library Association meeting.

Wouldnt it be wonderful if your library were the first to receive this prestigious award?

Contact the Library of Michigan Foundation at (517) 373-1297 to learn more about the nomination process and how your library can be considered for the State Librarian's Excellence Award.



LM Receives Commendation for Regional Federal Depository Libraries Pages

By Anne Marie Sanders, Depository Librarian

The commendation by the Depository Council to the Public Printer is for our service partnership for the Regional Depository Libraries web pages. The commendation was made on April 4, 2001, at the conclusion of the spring meeting of the Council in San Antonio, Texas. LM was commended along with the GPO and several of its other partners. The actual text says:

Council commends GPO and the Partner Libraries for the innovative and wide-ranging partnerships that have been forged over the past few years. These service and content partnerships provide examples of good work, experts in new fields, and provide an opportunity for FDLP libraries to serve both their public and other libraries in new and creative ways. In addition to previously recognized partnerships, Council commends:

University of Central Oklahoma for **Browse Topics** (Service Partnership)

State University of New York at Buffalo for the **Enhanced Shipping List Service** (Service Partnership)

Louisiana State University for the **List of** Federal Agency Internet Sites (Service Partnership)

Library of Michigan's **Regional Federal Depository Libraries Pages** (Service Partnership)

U.S. Department of State and the University of Illinois at Chicago's **Department of State Foreign Affairs Network (DOSFAN)** (Content Partnerships)

University of North Texas **Research Collections** a.k.a. the Cybercemetery (Content Partnership)

Background on the Council:

The focus and purpose of the Depository Council to the Public Printer is to advise the Public Printer, the Superintendent of Documents, and appropriate members of GPO staff on policy matters and practical options for the efficient management and operation of the Depository Library Program, as provided in Title 44, United States Code.

The Council's mission is to assist the Government Printing Office in identifying and evaluating alternatives for improving public access to government information through the Depository Library Program (DLP), and for optimizing resources available for operating the program. It consists of fifteen members appointed to three-year

terms by the Public Printer, representing a cross section of the various types of libraries in the program, in order to provide the Public Printer with a diverse range of opinion and expertise.

The Council was established in 1973. Michigan librarians who have served on the Council are Jean Lowrie of Western Michigan University from 1973 to 1974; Francis Buckley, the current Superintendent of Documents, who represented the Detroit Public Library from 1976 to 1979 and chaired the Council from 1978 to 1979; John Richter of the University of Michigan from 1978 to 1981; Jennie Cross of the Oakland County Public Schools from 1983 to 1986 (who chaired the Council from 1985 to 1986); F. Anne Diamond of the Library of Michigan from 1988 to 1991, and Paula Kaczmarek of the Detroit Public Library from 1998 to 2001.

New Video Teaches Trustee Skills

By Gretchen Taylor, Public Information Intern

Does your library board need to brush up on some basic skills? If so, the Library of Michigan has a new video that will help get your board back up to par. Basic Skills for Library Trustees is a four-part video produced by the Idaho State Library in 2000. The 35-minute program covers roles and responsibilities of boards, working as a board, and intellectual freedom. The fourth segment is a discussion of Idaho s Open Meetings Law, which although not identical to Michigan s, provides some basic information about the law s purpose.

The video touches on some interesting topics such as the two-way communication that should occur between library boards and their communities, and how libraries should deal with controversial or challenged materials. It also looks at the use of Internet filters, a highly relevant topic to today s libraries. The program should be viewed in a group and includes a helpful discussion guide with questions relating to each segment. So if your board could stand to improve its basic skills, bring Basic Skills for Library Trustees to your next meeting!

This videotape is available through interlibrary loan from the Library of Michigan.



Trustees Corner

By Ellen Richardson Library Law Specialist

FCC Issues E-Rate Filtering Rules

As anticipated, the Federal Communications Commission has issued rules for the implementation of the Children's Internet Protection Act and the Neighborhood Children's Internet Protection Act, both of which became effective on April 20, 2001. Under the provisions of CIPA/NCIPA, public libraries and schools receiving E-rate discounts from the Universal Service Fund, funds under Title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, or funds under the state grant programs of LSTA, must adopt and implement an Internet safety policy and operate technology protection measures if those funds are used to support Internet access. The FCC has issued rules for recipients of E-rate discounts; the Department of Education and the Institute for Museum and Library Services are expected to issue guidelines.

On April 5, 2001, the FCC issued its final rules for schools and libraries planning to apply for the receipt of E-rate discounts. The rules are complex and may be subject to change due to the number of affected parties asking for clarification. The legal issues are complex. Two lawsuits have already been filed in federal courts challenging the constitutionality of CIPA/NCIPA because of First Amendment concerns. There are many unanswered questions about the interrelationship of CIPA/NCIPA requirements and the mandates of state statutes, such as Michigan's Public Act 212 of 2000.

What do we know?

The FCC rules for the application and receipt of E-rate discounts apply to Year 4. The earliest date that action will be required by a public library receiving a discount is July 1, 2001, the beginning of Year 4. However, those libraries may not be required to indicate compliance on Form 486 until October 28, 2001.

Certification for compliance for Year 4 means that the library s current Internet policy meets the CIPA/NCIPA requirements or the library is working toward compliance by investigating Internet filters and developing an Internet safety policy meeting the provisions of the act. The act requires that such a policy be developed with community input.

Is there a dilemma?

The certification requirement may create a dilemma for Michigan public libraries. When Public Act 212 of 2000 was enacted, many Michigan public libraries adopted an Internet access policy including the use of filtering technology on computers used by minors. The libraries were careful, however, to literally follow the state statute s requirement that at least one computer be left unfiltered for adult use. The state law was carefully crafted to acknowledge that some material deemed harmful to minors is perfectly acceptable and legal for adult access. CIPA/NCIPA requires the filtering of all Internet access computers, only allowing for the disabling of the filtering software for bona fide research or other lawful purposes. How do these mesh? In addition, Michigan public library policies were adopted at library board meetings subject to the Michigan Open Meetings Act. Does the Open Meetings Act s requirement for time for public participation satisfy the community input requirement of CIPA/NCIPA?

The answers to these questions will not be easy to determine. The law suits filed on the federal level may result in some answers; the answers may be a long time in coming, however, and the deadline for some kind of certification of compliance is just around the corner.

What does one do in the meantime?

The first certification requires only that the library be working toward compliance with the filtering requirements of CIPA/NCIPA. As long as the library can document on-going discussion about compliance, attendance at meetings discussing the issues, or consultation with experts and legal counsel, certification by October 28, 2001, can probably be made in good conscience.

Certainly you will want to listen to the news and advice from your library cooperative, especially if it serves as the consortia through which you apply for the discount. Those fortunate enough to attend ALAs Annual Conference will have the opportunity to hear from the ALA Washington Office about the latest understanding of CIPA/NCIPA. In the meantime, check the ALA CIPA website for breaking news: http://www.ala.org/cipa/regulations

Things will get sorted out eventually. Keep serving the public as best you can, continue the application process for the E-rate discount, and start writing up your wonderful ideas for LSTA grant applications. And, stay tuned!

he Grand Rapids Building Authority awarded the contract for renovating the Grand Rapids Public Library s main library to Owen-Ames-Kimball. The \$17,500,471 was awarded after the Board of Library Commissioners authorized the addition of up to \$1.5 million to the \$16 million originally budgeted for the downtown facility. This approval keeps us on schedule, said Tom Genson, assistant library director and building project manager. Even more importantly, the budget will allow us to accomplish all the changes we identified as critical to providing the highest quality library service possible. Renovations to the 1907 Ryerson Building, where the GRPL is housed, and the 1967 addition, include: tripling the size of the children's area, replacing worn heating, ventilating and air-conditioning systems, adding a fire-suppression system, adding environmental control systems to help preserve rare and historic documents, and more. Work began earlier in the spring and the library should reopen in January or February 2003.

On July 1, 2001, the Ann Arbor District Library trustees say plans for a new branch library on Eisenhower Parkway will be underway.

athy Harmon, a youth assistant at the Saline District Library, is one of ten winners throughout the United States of a 2001 EBSCO/ALA Conference Sponsorship. The award provides \$1,000 to attend the 120th American Library Association Annual Conference in San Francisco, California, June 15 to 20, 2001.

Sponsorship applicants had to write a 250-word essay describing how attending the ALA Conference would contribute to their professional development.

Harmon has worked at the Saline District Library for two years, first as a circulation assistant and currently as a youth assistant. Prior to moving to Saline, she worked as a youth assistant at the Portage Lake District Library in Houghton, Michigan. In addition to working part-time at the library, Harmon is also completing her Master s Degree in Library Science at Wayne State University.

Despite her busy schedule, Harmon tries to keep her days free for her two daughters, Holly, age 3, and Heather, age 6.

he Michigan Network of Libraries for the Blind and Physically Handicapped has developed a program for young Braille readers and children new to talking book service who have reading disabilities. Linda Champion, assistant director of the Macomb County Library, wrote the successful Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant for this project. This \$60,000 grant, administered by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, will provide backpacks for approximately 1,300 young readers. The backpacks for Braille readers will be filled with a slate and stylus, a Braille dictionary, and an age-appropriate print-Braille storybook hand-selected by the Library of Michigan regional staff. A written brochure for parents will be included. For new, young patrons with reading disabilities and their parents, the backpack will include a copy of School Survivor Guide for Kids with LD and When Your Child Has

LD: A Survival Guide for Parents. The children should be getting their backpacks before

September 2001, the start of the new school year..

nn Arbor District Library computer center clerk Madelaine Krolik was cited by the March 15, 2001, issue of Library Journal as one of the top library paraprofessionals in the country. Krolik, cited for her skills with the library s computer training program, was one of three outstanding national finalists for Library Journals 2001 Paraprofessional of the Year Award. One of the most beloved teachers of both staff and public in the library system today, her determination to improve her computer skills established her as a key force in planning AADL s computer instruction program and long-distance learning efforts. A staff leader in several key positions during stressful situations, her willingness to share her love of books strengthened reader s advisory staff training, stated the citation in Library Journal. Madelaine began her career in the Ann Arbor District Library s computer lab in 1992.

If you have a news item you would like to contribute, please contact Martha McKee at 517-373-5578.

State Librarian

Christie Pearson Brandau

Deputy State Librarian

Jo Budler

Public Information Officer

Carey Draeger

Graphic Design /Layout

Marnie M. Elden

Contributing Writers:

Karen Keller, Ellen Richardson, Ann Marie Sanders, Gretchen Taylor, and Sarah Watkins

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Martha McKee, Interim Public Information Officer Library of Michigan P.O. Box 30007 \(\frac{1}{2} \) Lansing, MI 48909 Phone 517-373-5578

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